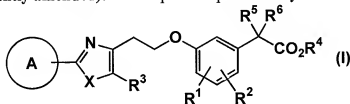


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

- 1. (currently amended):** A compound represented by formula (I)



wherein R¹ and R² each independently represents a hydrogen atom, C1-8 alkyl, a halogen atom, C1-4 alkoxy, nitro, trihalomethyl, trihalomethoxy, trihalomethylthio, cyano, C1-4 alkylthio or NR⁷R⁸, in which R⁷ and R⁸ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or C1-4 alkyl;

R³ represents C1-8 alkyl which may be substituted with a 1-3 halogen atom(s) or phenyl;

R⁴ represents a hydrogen atom or C1-8 alkyl;

R⁵ and R⁶ each independently represents a hydrogen atom or C1-4 alkyl, or R⁵ and R⁶ may be together with their neighboring carbon atom to form a carbocyclic ring;

X represents a sulfur atom, an oxygen atom or a nitrogen atom which may have a substituent(s);

ringA represents 4-(trifluoromethyl)piperidin-1-yl, 2,2-difluoro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl or 3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl,
or a salt thereof.

- 2. (canceled).**

3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is

(1) [3-(2-{5-methyl-2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-1,3-thiazol-4-yl}ethoxy)phenyl]acetic acid,

(2) [3-(2-{5-ethyl-2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-1,3-thiazol-4-yl}ethoxy)-4-methylphenyl]acetic acid,

(3) ——— (3-{2-[2-(2,2-difluoro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-5-isopropyl-1,3-oxazol-4-yl]ethoxy}-4-methylphenyl)acetic acid,

(4) ——— (3-{2-[2-(2,2-difluoro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-5-methyl-1,3-oxazol-4-yl]ethoxy}-4-methylphenyl)acetic acid,

(5)(3) [2-fluoro-3-(2-{5-methyl-2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-1,3-thiazol-4-yl}ethoxy)phenyl]acetic acid, or

(6)(4) (3-{2-[2-(3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-5-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl]ethoxy}-4-methylphenyl)acetic acid.

5. (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound represented by formula (I) according to claim 1, or a salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6. (previously presented): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is a therapeutic agent for hyperlipidemia or adiposity.

7-8. (canceled).

9. (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound represented by formula (I) according to claim 1, or a salt thereof and one or more components selected from the group consisting of a MTP inhibitor, a HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, a squalene synthase inhibitor, a fibrate drug, an ACAT inhibitor, a 5-lipoxygenase inhibitor, a cholesterol absorption inhibitor, a bile acid absorption inhibitor, a Na^+ /bile acid transporter inhibitor, LDL receptor activator, LDL receptor expression enhancer, a pancreatic lipase inhibitor, a probucol formulation, a nicotine acid formulation and a cholesterol ester transporter protein inhibitor.

10. (previously presented): A method for treatment of hyperlipidemia or adiposity in a mammal, which comprises administering to a mammal an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of

- (1) (3-{2-[2-(3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-5-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl]ethoxy}-4-methylphenyl)acetic acid,
- (2) [2-fluoro-3-(2-{5-methyl-2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-1,3-thiazol-4-yl}ethoxy)phenyl]acetic acid, and
- (3) (3-{2-[2-(2,2-difluoro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-5-isopropyl-1,3-oxazol-4-yl]ethoxy}-4-methylphenyl)acetic acid

or a salt thereof.

11. (Canceled)

- 12. (previously presented):** A compound selected from a group consisting of
- (1) (3-{2-[2-(3,4-dihydro-1H-isoquinolin-2-yl)-5-methyl-1,3-thiazol-4-yl]ethoxy}-4-methylphenyl)acetic acid and
- (2) [2-fluoro-3-(2-{5-methyl-2-[4-(trifluoromethyl)piperidin-1-yl]-1,3-thiazol-4-yl}ethoxy)phenyl]acetic acid.

- 13. (previously presented):** A compound of (3-{2-[2-(2,2-difluoro-1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)-5-isopropyl-1,3-oxazol-4-yl]ethoxy}-4-methylphenyl)acetic acid.